

Procurement actions for services require additional lead-time

APG DOC

Due to new regulation requirements, additional time is required to process service requirements. Customers should refer to Army FAR Supplement (AFARS) 5137.590 at <https://webportal.saalt.army.mil/saal-zp/procurement/afars.doc>.

The new approvals will become even more critical as the end of the fiscal year approaches.

The APG Directorate of Contracting will be developing templates to assist customers in preparing the required document and anticipate posting them to Web site <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/installation/contracting.asp> by July 16.

The new requirement is applicable now and will affect service acquisitions projected to be awarded by Sept. 30.

Also, the acquisition strategy documentation is in addition to the Secretary of the Army’s Policy for Civilian Hiring and Initiation/Continuation of Contracts for Service Personnel, which requires senior com-

Performance Based	Non-Performance Based	Approval Authority	Lead-times (Days)
\$100K up to \$10M	\$100K up to \$3M	DOC, APG	05
\$10M up to \$150M	\$3M to \$10M	PARC	15
\$150M up to \$500M	Over \$10M up to \$78.5M	HCA	140
\$500M or more	Over \$78.5M	DASA (P&P)	240+

mander approval.

With few exceptions, acquisition strategy documentation and approval (referred to as AMOAS) is required for services over \$100K. The following thresholds and approval levels apply and will incrementally require additional lead time.

“Service” means the engagement of the time and effort of a contractor whose primary purpose is to perform an identifiable task, or tasks, rather than to furnish an end item of supply.

“Acquisition of services”

means one or multiple contracts or other instruments committing or obligating funds (e.g., fund transfer, placing orders under the Federal Supply Schedules or other existing contract, etc.) to acquire services for a specified requirement and includes (1) entry into a contract or any other form of agreement including, but not limited to, basic ordering agreements, blanket purchase agreements, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts, and simi-

lar ordering agreements and (2) issuance of a task order or any transfer of funds to acquire a service on behalf of the DoD.

For more information, contact the chief, Contracting Division, 410-278-0869.

Retirement

From front page

the ABC-C is responsible for retirement counseling. All employees are entitled to preliminary retirement counseling in anticipation of retirement and final counseling prior to the date of separation. This is true even if an employee feels he/she understands all matters pertaining to his/her retirement.

“When an employee decides to retire and submits his/her package, he/she can expect to receive final retirement counseling from an ABC-C benefits counselor before the date of retirement,” Smith said. “Although the ABC-C counselor will make contact with the employee, the employee can certainly contact the ABC-C, especially if he/she has questions concerning retirement.”

Annuity estimates

An employee should not make the decision to retire without knowledge of what the expected monthly benefit will be. CPAC will ask the employee if he/she has received an annuity estimate prepared by the ABC-C within the past year. Additionally, it is important for the employee to be sure that he/she is reviewing an estimate for the specific retirement category under which he/she will retire (i.e., early optional, disability, Minimum Retirement Age + 10 years of service (MRA+10), etc.).

“This is important because an employee may be eligible for more than one category of retirement, and each is different in terms of the retirement system, computation, reductions, etc.,” Smith said.

“Employees are strongly encouraged to contact the ABC-C within one year of retirement (or anticipated retirement) to request an estimate and obtain preliminary retirement counseling.”

Although an employee can obtain estimate information through either the ABC-C’s Web or phone systems, an employee with a more involved service history needs to contact an ABC-C counselor to prepare the retirement estimate. This includes those employees with a part-time work schedule (current or past); NAF service; elected to transfer to FERS; taken a refund of retirement contributions for a past period of service; have an unpaid deposit for Post 56 military service, or an unpaid deposit for a period of nondeduction (temporary) service.

Application Submission Timeframe

The recommended timeframe

for submitting a retirement application to the ABC-C is within 90-120 days of the intended retirement date.

There are many reasons why early submission is so important. Among those is to allow the ABC-C enough working time to verify retirement eligibility, identify any discrepancies concerning retirement, and allow time to provide final retirement counseling before the date of separation.

For more information, contact ABC-C, 1-877-276-9287; the ABC-C Helpdesk, DSN 856-2000/commercial 1-785-239-2000 or Teri Wright, CPAC, 410-278-4331 or e-mail teri.wright@us.army.mil.